



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF PURCHASES & SUPPLY
1111 East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

July 18, 2012
CONTRACT AWARD #E194-72717
(MANDATORY SOURCE)

Title: Propane (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) NIGP Code 40503

Contract Period: July 18, 2012 through July 18, 2014

Authorized User: State Agencies
Institution of Higher Educations
Public Bodies
Community Service Boards and other Entities
Authorized by code of Virginia

CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Blossman Gas Inc
809 Washington Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
Contact Name: Carmen Mee

eVA ID: E40434

Phone: (228) 875-2261
Fax: (228) 875-9307
Email: Carmen.mee@blossmangas.com

VIEW AND PRINT THIS CONTRACT AND ANY CHANGES AT: www.eva.virginia.gov

NOTE: This public body does not discriminate against faith-based organizations in accordance with the Code of Virginia, § 2.2-4343.1 or against a bidder because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. White".

Sandra D. White, VCO
Statewide Contract Officer, Services
Telephone: (804) 786-0078
Fax: (804) 786-5413
Email: sandra.white@dgs.virginia.gov

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Orders:
 - A. Unless otherwise instructed by the Division of Purchases and Supply, all departments, institutions and agencies of the Commonwealth of Virginia will order items/services through eVA.
 - B. If this contract is authorized for use by localities, Virginia cities counties, towns, and political subdivisions, orders will be placed through eVA to the maximum extent possible.
 - C. An eVA purchase orders should be issued prior to contractors performing any work. However, should the agency find it necessary to issue any eVA confirming orders, the confirming orders must be placed within eVA five (5) business days after directing the contractor to proceed
 - D. MINIMUM AMOUNT: Any state Agency/Public Body whose annual usage of Propane does not exceed \$2,000.00 annually may opt out of using this Contract. Any State Agency/Public Body using less than \$2,000.00 annually is encouraged to use the Commonwealths Small Purchase Charge Card to pay for the Propane.
 - E. Exception to the use of a mandatory source or contract must be approved in advance, in writing, by an official of the mandatory source, the contract officer in the case of a DGS/DPS contract, utilizing the Procurement Exception Request form.
2. Inspection on delivery and approval of vendor's invoice is the responsibility of receiving state agency, Virginia city, county, town or political subdivision.
3. Any complaint as to quality, faculty or delinquent delivery, or violation of contract provisions by contractor shall be reported to the Division of Purchases and Supply for handling with the contractor Form (DGS-41-024), by which to facilitate the notification of the contractor and this office of complaints, is available from the Division of Purchases and Supply web site at www.eva.state.va.us.
4. Renewals: This contract has three (3) one-year renewal periods. The contract will be resolicited by the Commonwealth at a reasonable time (approximately 120 days) prior to the expiration date.
5. Price Adjustments: See Price Escalation/De-escalation clause.
6. **NOTICE TO ALL STATE AGENCIES:** This contract is the result of a competitive bid program and its use is mandatory for all State Agencies (unless otherwise indicated in item 6 above) in the purchase of any commodity listed

herein. If the commodity or services available under this contract cannot be used by an agency, a request to purchase other goods or services of a similar nature shall be submitted to the appropriate DGS/DPS contract/purchase officer for approval. A complete and factual written justification is necessary to support the request. Refer to Section 13.7a of the Agency Procurement and Surplus Property Manual.

RATE SCHEDULE

Virginia City/Town/County	Contractor	Price
Bedford County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2500
Campbell County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2300
Clarke County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.3200
Culpeper County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2100
Goochland County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.1850
Greene County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2700
Greensville County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2050
Harrisonburg City	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2500
Louisa County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2700
Lynchburg City	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2300
Madison County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2700
Manassas City	Blossman Gas Inc	0.3300
Orange County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2700
Prince William County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.3300
Shenandoah County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.2675
Stafford County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.3100
Wythe County	Blossman Gas Inc	0.3500

CONTRACTOR'S SCOPE OF WORKS

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the contractor/supplier to maintain sufficient gas for satisfactory uninterrupted operation at each location. In the event of emergency, each contractor/supplier shall have available services to supply needs of the agency/institution and be in a position to delivery whenever required. The contractor/supplier shall file with the agency/institution an emergency telephone number for calling nights, holidays and Sundays.
- B. Any Contractor-supplied meters used to measure quantity of gas consumed shall be first grade, accurate instruments. In the event the agency/institution is not satisfied with the operations of any meter, the supplier must replace such meter with an instrument which is approved by the institution.
- C. Metered tank truck delivery and invoices: For those contractors that use metered tank truck delivery instead of stationary meters, contractor shall

leave a delivery ticket with a responsible agency representative, showing the exact number, to the tenths of a gallon, of propane delivered. All meters on tanks trucks shall be accurate instruments and shall be certified and calibrated in accordance with local and state law. All invoices rendered against metered tank truck delivery shall show the following minimum information:

1. Agency name and location
 2. Date of delivery
 3. Number of gallons delivered
 4. Contract unit price in price per gallon
 5. Total (extended) amount
- D. New contractor, if other than the present vendor, shall make all arrangements for transfer or replacement of contractor-owned storage tanks and equipment where applicable and at no cost to the Commonwealth. Service to the institution shall be interrupted no more than one (1) hour maximum during the transfer or replacement. All piping except connectors, etc., for directly hooking up the tanks, meters and regulating equipment shall be supplied by the using agency or institution.
- E. Your propane gas supplier should have some input in recommending the proper size tank for your location(s). Your cooperation with the supplier is necessary.
- F. Rate of Delivery: Delivery shall begin after contract award and continue as ordered throughout the contract period. The Contractor shall service all tanks on a degree-day basis and shall supply such fuels when the tank level reaches approximately one-fourth (1/4) capacity, unless otherwise directed by the using agency/institution.
- G. Service Period: On-site maintenance services shall carry a FOUR (4) hour response time, following initial notification, and be available during the normal working hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, excluding state holidays. All necessary repairs or corrections shall be completed within 24 hours of the initial notification.
- H. Contractors shall contact each agency to familiarize themselves with the exact services required.
1. The Contractor shall assign a point of contact for each location to provide weekly APEX pricing.
 2. Failure to properly inspect job site(s) will not be considered as valid reason for failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the contract.

- I Reports – Weekly reports shall be sent to each location with the following information.
1. Agency Delivery Location
 2. Gallons delivered to that location.
 3. Posted Apex, North Carolina Pricing
 4. Differential
 5. Total Price per gallon

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. **VENDORS MANUAL:** This solicitation is subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Vendors Manual and any changes or revisions thereto, which are hereby incorporated into this contract in their entirety. The procedure for filing contractual claims is in section 7.19 of the Vendors Manual. A copy of the manual is normally available for review at the purchasing office and is accessible on the Internet at www.eva.virginia.gov under “Vendors Manual” on the “Vendor” tab.

B. APP. LAWS AND COURTS

APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS: This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth. The agency and the contractor are encouraged to resolve any issues in controversy arising from the award of the contract or any contractual dispute using Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) procedures (Code of Virginia, § 2.2-4366). ADR procedures are described in Chapter 9 of the Vendors Manual. The contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

C. ANTI-DISCRIMINATION:

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION: By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify to the Commonwealth that they will conform to the provisions of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, as well as the Virginia Fair Employment Contracting Act of 1975, as amended, where applicable, the Virginians With Disabilities Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act and § 2.2-4311 of the Virginia Public Procurement Act (VPPA). If the award is made to a faith-based organization, the organization shall not discriminate against any recipient of goods, services, or disbursements made pursuant to the contract on the basis of the recipient's religion, religious belief, refusal to participate in a religious practice, or on the basis of race, age, color, gender or national origin and shall be subject to the same rules as other organizations that contract with public bodies to account for the use of the funds provided; however, if the faith-based organization segregates public funds into separate accounts, only the accounts and programs funded with public funds shall be subject to audit by the public body. (Code of Virginia, § 2.2-4343.1E). In every contract over \$10,000 the provisions in 1. and 2. below apply: 1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows: a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment

because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause. b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer. c. Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting these requirements. 2. The contractor will include the provisions of 1. above in every subcontract or purchase order over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

D. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING

ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING: By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify that their (bids/proposals) are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other (bidder/offeror), supplier, manufacturer or subcontractor in connection with their (bid/proposal), and that they have not conferred on any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.

E. IMMIGRATION REFORM

IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986: By entering into a written contract with the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Contractor certifies that the Contractor does not, and shall not during the performance of the contract for goods and services in the Commonwealth, knowingly employ an unauthorized alien as defined in the federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

F. DEBARMENT STATUS

DEBARMENT STATUS: By submitting their (bids/proposals), (bidders/offerors) certify that they are not currently debarred by the Commonwealth of Virginia from submitting bids or proposals on contracts for the type of goods and/or services covered by this solicitation, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently so debarred.

G. ANTITRUST

ANTITRUST: By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the Commonwealth of Virginia all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by the Commonwealth of Virginia under said contract.

H. MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM

MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR IFB's: Failure to submit a bid on the official state form provided for that purpose shall be a cause for rejection of the bid. Modification of or additions to any portion of the Invitation for Bids may be cause for rejection of the bid; however, the Commonwealth reserves the right to decide, on a case by case basis, in its sole discretion, whether to reject such a bid as nonresponsive. As a precondition to its acceptance, the Commonwealth may, in its sole discretion, request that the bidder withdraw or modify nonresponsive portions of a bid which do not affect quality, quantity, price, or delivery. No modification of or addition to the provisions of the contract shall be effective unless reduced to writing and signed by the parties.

I. CLARIFICATION OF TERMS

CLARIFICATION OF TERMS: If any prospective (bidder/offeror) has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective (bidder/offeror) should contact the buyer whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working days before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the buyer.

K. PRECEDENCE OF TERMS

PRECEDENCE OF TERMS: The following General Terms and Conditions VENDORS MANUAL, APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS, ANTI-DISCRIMINATION, ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING, IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986, DEBARMENT STATUS, ANTITRUST, MANDATORY USE OF STATE FORM AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS, CLARIFICATION OF TERMS, PAYMENT shall apply in all instances. In the event there is a conflict between any of the other General Terms and Conditions and any Special Terms and Conditions in this solicitation, the Special Terms and Conditions shall apply.

L. QUALIFICATIONS

QUALIFICATIONS OF (BIDDERS/OFFERORS): The Commonwealth may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the ability of the (bidder/offeror) to perform the services/furnish the goods and the (bidder/offeror) shall furnish to the Commonwealth all such information and data for this purpose as may be requested. The Commonwealth reserves the right to inspect (bidder's/offeror's) physical facilities prior to award to satisfy questions regarding the (bidder's/offeror's) capabilities. The Commonwealth further reserves the right to reject any (bid/proposal) if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such (bidder/offeror) fails to satisfy the Commonwealth that such (bidder/offeror) is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to provide the services and/or furnish the goods contemplated therein.

M. TESTING AND INSPECTION

TESTING AND INSPECTION: The Commonwealth reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.

N. ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT

ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT: A contract shall not be assignable by the contractor in whole or in part without the written consent of the Commonwealth.

O. CHANGES TO THE CONTRACT

Changes can be made to the contract in any of the following ways: 1. The parties may agree in writing to modify the scope of the contract. An increase or decrease in the price of the contract resulting from such modification shall be agreed to by the parties as a part of their written agreement to modify the scope of the contract. 2. The Purchasing Agency may order changes within the general scope of the contract at any time by written notice to the contractor. Changes within the scope of the contract include, but are not limited to, things such as services to be performed, the method of packing or shipment, and the place of delivery or installation. The contractor shall comply with the notice upon receipt. The contractor shall be compensated for any additional costs incurred as the result of such order and shall give the Purchasing Agency a credit for any savings. Said compensation shall be determined by one of the following methods: a. By mutual agreement between the parties in writing; or b. By agreeing upon a unit price or using a unit price set forth in the contract, if the work to be done can be expressed in units, and the contractor accounts for the number of units of work performed, subject to the Purchasing Agency's right to audit the contractor's records and/or to determine the correct number of units independently; or c. By ordering the contractor to proceed with the work and keep a record of all costs incurred and savings realized. A markup for overhead and profit may be allowed if provided by the contract. The same markup shall be used for determining a decrease in price as the result of savings realized. The contractor shall present the Purchasing Agency with all vouchers and records of expenses incurred and savings realized. The Purchasing Agency shall have the right to audit the records of the contractor as it deems necessary to determine costs or savings. Any claim for an adjustment in price under this provision must be asserted by written notice to the Purchasing Agency within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written order from the Purchasing Agency. If the parties fail to agree on an amount of adjustment, the question of an increase or decrease in the contract price or time for performance shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures for resolving disputes provided by the Disputes Clause of this contract or, if there is none, in accordance with the disputes provisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia Vendors Manual. Neither the existence of a claim nor a dispute resolution process, litigation or any other provision of this contract shall excuse the contractor from promptly complying with the changes ordered by the Purchasing Agency or with the performance of the contract generally.

P. DEFAULT

DEFAULT: In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the Commonwealth, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies which the Commonwealth may have.

Q. TAXES

TAXES: Sales to the Commonwealth of Virginia are normally exempt from State sales tax. State sales and use tax certificates of exemption, Form ST-12, will be issued upon request. Deliveries against this contract shall usually be free of Federal excise and transportation taxes. The Commonwealth's excise tax exemption registration number is 54-73-0076K.

R. USE OF BRAND NAMES

USE OF BRAND NAMES: Unless otherwise provided in this solicitation, the name of a certain brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict (bidders/offers) to the specific brand, make or manufacturer named, but conveys the general style, type, character, and quality of the article desired. Any article which the public body, in its sole discretion, determines to be the equivalent of that specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended, shall be accepted. The (bidder/offers) is responsible to clearly and specifically identify the product being offered and to provide sufficient descriptive literature, catalog cuts and technical detail to enable the Commonwealth to determine if the product offered meets the requirements of the solicitation. This is required even if offering the exact brand, make or manufacturer specified. Normally in competitive sealed bidding only the information furnished with the bid will be considered in the evaluation. Failure to furnish adequate data for evaluation purposes may result in declaring a bid nonresponsive. Unless the (bidder/offers) clearly indicates in its (bid/proposal) that the product offered is an equivalent product, such (bid/proposal) will be considered to offer the brand name product referenced in the solicitation.

S. TRANSPORTATION AND PACKAGING

TRANSPORTATION AND PACKAGING: By submitting their (bids/proposals), all (bidders/offers) certify and warrant that the price offered for FOB destination includes only the actual freight rate costs at the lowest and best rate and is based upon the actual weight of the goods to be shipped. Except as otherwise specified herein, standard commercial packaging, packing and shipping containers shall be used. All shipping containers shall be legibly marked or labeled on the outside with purchase order number, commodity description, and quantity.

T. INSURANCE (1 of 2)

INSURANCE (part 1 of 3): By signing and submitting a bid or proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offers certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have the

following insurance coverage at the time the contract is awarded. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with §§ 2.2-4332 and 65.2-800 et seq. of the Code of Virginia. The bidder or offeror further certifies that the contractor and any subcontractors will maintain these insurance coverage during the entire term of the contract and that all insurance coverage will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission. (continued in part 2)

T. INSURANCE (2 of 2)

INSURANCE (part 2 of 3) MINIMUM INSURANCE COVERAGES AND LIMITS REQUIRED FOR MOST CONTRACTS: 1) Workers' Compensation - Statutory requirements and benefits. Coverage is compulsory for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer. Contractors who fail to notify the Commonwealth of increases in the number of employees that change their workers' compensation requirements under the Code of Virginia during the course of the contract shall be in noncompliance with the contract. 2). Employer's Liability - \$100,000. 3) Commercial General Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Commercial General Liability is to include bodily injury and property damage, personal injury and advertising injury, products and completed operations coverage. The Commonwealth of Virginia must be named as an additional insured and so endorsed on the policy 4). Automobile Liability - \$1,000,000 per occurrence. (Only used if motor vehicle is to be used in the contract.). (continued in part 3)

U. ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARD: Upon the award or the announcement of the decision to award a contract over \$50,000, as a result of this solicitation, the purchasing agency will publicly post such notice on the DGS/DPS eVA website (www.eva.virginia.gov) for a minimum of 10 days.

V. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE: During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. For the purposes of this section, "drug-free workplace" means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana

during the performance of the contract.

W. NONDISCRIMINATION

NONDISCRIMINATION OF CONTRACTORS: A bidder, offeror, or contractor shall not be discriminated against in the solicitation or award of this contract because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, faith-based organizational status, any other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment or because the bidder or offeror employs ex-offenders unless the state agency, department or institution has made a written determination that employing ex-offenders on the specific contract is not in its best interest. If the award of this contract is made to a faith-based organization and an individual, who applies for or receives goods, services, or disbursements provided pursuant to this contract objects to the religious character of the faith-based organization from which the individual receives or would receive the goods, services, or disbursements, the public body shall offer the individual, within a reasonable period of time after the date of his objection, access to equivalent goods, services, or disbursements from an alternative provider.

X. eVA REGISTRATION

eVA REGISTRATION (1 of 2)

eVA BUSINESS-TO-GOVERNMENT VENDOR REGISTRATION: (part 1 of 2) The eVA Internet electronic procurement solution, website portal www.eVA.virginia.gov, streamlines and automates government purchasing activities in the Commonwealth. The eVA portal is the gateway for vendors to conduct business with state agencies and public bodies. All vendors desiring to provide goods and/or services to the Commonwealth shall participate in the eVA Internet eprocurement solution either through the eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service or eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service. All bidders or offerors must register in eVA and pay the Vendor Transaction Fees specified below; failure to register will result in the bid/proposal being rejected. Effective July 1, 2011, vendor registration and registration-renewal fees have been discontinued. Registration options are as follows: a. eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service: eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service includes electronic order receipt, vendor catalog posting, on-line registration, electronic bidding, and the ability to research historical procurement data available in the eVA purchase transaction data warehouse. b. eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service: eVA Premium Vendor Registration Service includes all benefits of the eVA Basic Vendor Registration Service plus automatic email or fax notification of solicitations and amendments.

eVA REGISTRATION (2 of 2)

eVA BUSINESS-TO-GOVERNMENT VENDOR REGISTRATION: (part 2 of 2) Vendor transaction fees are determined by the date the original purchase order is issued and are as follows: a. For orders issued prior to August 16, 2006, the Vendor Transaction Fee is 1%, capped at a maximum of \$500 per order. b. For orders issued August 16, 2006 thru June 30, 2011, the Vendor Transaction Fee is: (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$500 per order. (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$1,500 per order. c. For orders issued July 1, 2011 thru June

30, 2013, the Vendor Transaction Fee is: (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 0.75%, capped at \$500 per order. (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 0.75%, capped at \$1,500 per order. d. For orders issued July 1, 2013 and after, the Vendor Transaction Fee is: (i) DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$500 per order. (ii) Businesses that are not DMBE-certified Small Businesses: 1%, capped at \$1,500 per order. The specified vendor transaction fee will be invoiced, by the Commonwealth of Virginia Department of General Services, approximately 30 days after the corresponding purchase order is issued and payable 30 days after the invoice date. Any adjustments (increases/decreases) will be handled through purchase order changes.

Z. SET ASIDES

This solicitation is set-aside for DMBE-certified small business participation only when designated "SET-ASIDE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES" in the solicitation. DMBE-certified small businesses are those businesses that hold current small business certification from the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise. This shall not exclude DMBE-certified women-owned and minority-owned businesses when they have received the DMBE small business certification. For purposes of award, bidders/offerors shall be deemed small businesses if and only if they are certified as such by DMBE on the due date for receipt of bids/proposals.

J. PAYMENT (1 of 4)

PAYMENT (part 1 of 4): To Prime Contractor: a.) Invoices for items ordered, delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the contractor directly to the payment address shown on the purchase order/contract. All invoices shall show the state contract number and/or purchase order number; social security number (for individual contractors) or the federal employer identification number (for proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations). b.) Any payment terms requiring payment in less than 30 days will be regarded as requiring payment 30 days after invoice or delivery, whichever occurs last. This shall not affect offers of discounts for payment in less than 30 days, however. c.) All goods or services provided under this contract or purchase order, that are to be paid for with public funds, shall be billed by the contractor at the contract price, regardless of which public agency is being billed. d.) The following shall be deemed to be the date of payment: the date of postmark in all cases where payment is made by mail, or the date of offset when offset proceedings have been instituted as authorized under the Virginia Debt Collection Act. e.) Unreasonable Charges. Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed.(Continued on part 2)

J. PAYMENT (2 of 4)

PAYMENT (part 2 of 4): In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges which appear to be unreasonable will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the Commonwealth

shall promptly notify the contractor, in writing, as to those charges which it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification. The provisions of this section do not relieve an agency of its prompt payment obligations with respect to those charges which are not in dispute (Code of Virginia, § 2.2-4363). 2. To Subcontractors: a.) A contractor awarded a contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated: (1) To pay the subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the contractor's receipt of payment from the Commonwealth for the proportionate share of the payment received for work performed by the subcontractor(s) under the contract; or (2) To notify the agency and the subcontractor(s), in writing, of the contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason. (continued on part 3)

J. PAYMENT (3 of 4)

PAYMENT (part 3 of 4): b.) The contractor is obligated to pay the subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from the Commonwealth, except for amounts withheld as stated in (2) above. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. Mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee. These provisions apply to each sub-tier contractor performing under the primary contract. A contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation of the Commonwealth. 3.) Each prime contractor who wins an award in which provision of a SWAM procurement plan is a condition to the award, shall deliver to the contracting agency or institution, on or before request for final payment, evidence and certification of compliance (subject only to insubstantial shortfalls and to shortfalls arising from subcontractor default) with the SWAM procurement plan. Final payment under the contract in question may be withheld until such certification is delivered and, if necessary, confirmed by the agency or institution, or other appropriate penalties may be assessed in lieu of withholding such payment.

J. PAYMENT (4 of 4)

PAYMENT (part 4 of 4): The Commonwealth of Virginia encourages contractors and subcontractors to accept electronic and credit card payments.

AA. BID PRICE CURRENCY:

BID PRICE CURRENCY: Unless stated otherwise in the solicitation, bidders/offerors shall state bid/offer prices in US dollars.

BB. BUSINESS AUTHORIZATION

AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN THE COMMONWEALTH: A contractor organized as a stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, business trust, or limited partnership or registered as a registered limited liability partnership shall be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a domestic or foreign business entity if so required by Title 13.1 or Title 50 of the Code of Virginia

or as otherwise required by law. Any business entity described above that enters into a contract with a public body pursuant to the Virginia Public Procurement Act shall not allow its existence to lapse or its certificate of authority or registration to transact business in the Commonwealth, if so required under Title 13.1 or Title 50, to be revoked or cancelled at any time during the term of the contract. A public body may void any contract with a business entity if the business entity fails to remain in compliance with the provisions of this section.

SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- A. ADVERTISING In the event a contract is awarded for supplies, equipment, or services resulting from this bid/proposal, no indication of such sales or services to the Commonwealth of Virginia will be used in product literature or advertising. The contractor shall not state in any of its advertising or product literature that (name of agency/institution) has purchased or uses any of its products or services, and the contractor shall not include (name of agency/institution) in any client list in advertising and promotional materials.
- B. AUDIT: The contractor shall retain all books, records, and other documents relative to this contract for five (5) years after final payment, or until audited by the Commonwealth of Virginia, whichever is sooner. The agency, its authorized agents, and/or state auditors shall have full access to and the right to examine any of said materials during said period.
- C. CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT: The purchasing agency reserves the right to cancel and terminate any resulting contract, in part or in whole, without penalty, upon 60 days written notice to the contractor. In the event the initial contract period is for more than 12 months, the resulting contract may be terminated by either party, without penalty, after the initial 12 months of the contract period upon 60 days written notice to the other party. Any contract cancellation notice shall not relieve the contractor of the obligation to deliver and/or perform on all outstanding orders issued prior to the effective date of cancellation.
- D. INDEMNIFICATION: Contractor agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Commonwealth of Virginia, its officers, agents, and employees from any claims, damages and actions of any kind or nature, whether at law or in equity, arising from or caused by the use of any materials, goods, or equipment of any kind or nature furnished by the contractor/any services of any kind or nature furnished by the contractor, provided that such liability is not attributable to the sole negligence of the using agency or to failure of the using agency to use the materials, goods, or equipment in the manner already and permanently described by the contractor on the materials, goods or equipment delivered.
- E. PRICE ESCALATION/DE-ESCALATION: Price adjustments may be permitted

for changes in the contractor's cost for Propane. Price escalation may be permitted only at the end of each contract year. However, "across the board" price decreases are subject to implementation at any time and shall be immediately conveyed to the Commonwealth.

Contractor shall give not less than 30 days advance notice of any price increase to the purchasing office. Any approved price changes will be effective only at the beginning of the calendar month following the end of the full 30 day notification period. The contractor shall document the amount and proposed effective date of any general change in the price of materials. Documentation shall be supplied with the contractor's request for increase which will: (1) verify that the requested price increase is general in scope and not applicable just to the Commonwealth of Virginia; and (2) verify the amount or percentage of increase which is being passed on to the contractor by the contractor's suppliers.

The purchasing office will notify the using agencies and contractor in writing of the effective date of any increase which it approves. However, the contractor shall fill all purchase orders received prior to the effective date of the price adjustment at the old contract prices. The contractor is further advised that decreases which affect the differential cost of service/materials are required to be communicated immediately to the purchasing office.

- F. PRIME CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES: The contractor shall be responsible for completely supervising and directing the work under this contract and all subcontractors that he may utilize, using his best skill and attention. Subcontractors who perform work under this contract shall be responsible to the prime contractor. The contractor agrees that he is as fully responsible for the acts and omissions of his subcontractors and of persons employed by them as he is for the acts and omissions of his own employees.
- G. QUANTITIES: Quantities set forth in this solicitation are estimates only, and the contractor shall supply at bid prices actual quantities as ordered, regardless of whether such total quantities are more or less than those shown.
- H. RENEWAL OF CONTRACT: This contract may be renewed by the Commonwealth for three (3) successive one year periods under the terms and conditions of the original contract except as stated in 1. And 2. below. Prices increases may be negotiated only at the time of renewal. Written notice of the Commonwealth's intention to renew shall be given approximately 90 days prior to the expiration date of each contract period.
 - 1. If the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract for an additional one-year period, the contract price(s) for the additional one year shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the original contract increased/decreased by more than the percentage increase/decrease for the Propane Category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the

United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.

2. If during any subsequent renewal periods, the Commonwealth elects to exercise the option to renew the contract, the contract price(s) for the subsequent renewal period shall not exceed the contract price(s) of the previous renewal period increased/decreased by more than the percentage increase/decrease of the Propane Category of the CPI-W section of the Consumer Price Index of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for the latest twelve months for which statistics are available.
- I. USAGE REPORT: The Contractor will provide the Division of Purchases and Supply with electronic quarterly reports to start in August.

The usage report should contain the following information at a minimum:

- a. Location/Contract User (i.e. school district/locality)
- b. Account Number
- c. Gallons
- d. County/City/Towns
- e. Tank Size
- f. Serial Number
- g. Year
- h. Vendor or State Owned
- i. Previous Provider
- j. Training or Replacing Block
- k. Sales Total/Purchase Price

The Commonwealth reserves the right to add additional information to the usage report at any time. Failure to submit this information in the required time may result in cancellation of the resulting contract and disqualification from the next solicitation for this contract

- J. FINANCIAL WARRANTY: Contractor shall ensure that the prices, discounts, incentives, and other financial terms (collectively, the "financial deal") applicable to purchases under this Contract is always at least as favorable to the purchaser as the financial deal that the Contractor or its affiliates make available to any public body in Virginia for the same good(s)/service(s) outside this Contract. Throughout the term of this Contract, if Contractor (or any affiliate) makes a better financial deal available to a public body in Virginia for any good(s)/service(s) available under this Contract, Contractor shall immediately notify DGS of the details and, at DGS's option, sign an amendment to this Contract, so that an equivalent financial deal for the affected good(s)/service(s) is also available as an option under this Contract. Contractor may request exemption if the better financial deal was for a spot purchase, and DGS shall

grant such request if DGS in good faith finds that the spot purchase involved special circumstances affecting cost that would make it unfair to apply an equivalent financial deal outside of that spot purchase. Upon DGS's request (and annually on August 1), Contractor shall submit to DGS an affidavit certifying full compliance with this Section. The Contractor (and any affiliate) shall waive any contractual or other right that inhibits any public body in Virginia from disclosing to DGS or others the financial terms made available to the public body and upon request from DGS, Contractor shall ensure that a signed confirmation of the waiver is provided to the public body and DGS. As used in this Section, an affiliate is any entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, the Contractor.

- K. CONTRACTOR'S REPORT OF SALES: Contractor must report the quarterly dollar value, in U.S. dollars and rounded to the nearest whole dollar, of all invoiced sales under this Contract by calendar quarter; i.e., January through March, April through June, July through September, and October through December. The dollar value of an invoiced sale is the price paid by the user for products and services on a Contract order as recorded by the Contractor. Contractor shall provide this report to the DGS Contracting Officer, both within 30 days after the end of each quarterly reporting period as defined herein. The report must show each individual item and quantities purchased and the purchaser, and other details as may be requested by the Commonwealth. The report is required to be in electronic MS Excel spreadsheet format (.xls). The Contractor shall provide other reports pertaining to the contract as may be required by the Commonwealth.